

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed September 7, 2006. Claims 1-31 are pending in this Application. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 16, 17, 24, 25, 29, and 30 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this Application.

Claims 1-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Independent Claims 1, 11, 16, 24, and 29 have been amended to address matters raised by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-31 are in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farris, et al. in view of Griffiths. Independent Claims 1, 11, 16, 24, and 29 recite in general that a network location is assigned to the network user upon establishment of the communication session from a range of network location information available for allocation. By contrast, neither the Farris, et al. or Griffiths patents disclose a capability to assign a network location to a user for a communication session from a range of network location information available for allocation as required in the claimed invention. The portions of the Farris, et al. patent cited by the Examiner merely disclose using the pre-assigned telephone number and the office equipment number of the calling party. Thus, the Farris, et al. patent does not do any assigning of network locations from an available range as provided in the claimed invention. Support for the above recitation can be found at page 10, lines 12-15, of Applicant's specification. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-31 are patentably distinct from the proposed Farris, et al. - Griffiths combination.

With respect to dependent Claims 2, 12, 17, 25, and 30, there is recited in general the ability of a second network interface to send a query according to the network locator address upon determining that there is no network user identity associated with the network locator address assigned to a network user. By contrast, neither the Farris, et al. or Griffiths patents discloses a capability of a second network interface to send a query upon determining that there is no network user identity associated with a network locator address of a network user. The portion of the Farris, et al. patent cited by the Examiner merely discloses making multiple attempts to identify a subscriber when the extracted speech information fails to match a stored subscriber template or feature data. When no match exists, Farris, et al. teaches prompting the user for a speech input. However, the prompt is sent upon determining that there is not a subscriber template match. The prompt in the Farris, et al. patent is not sent upon determining that there is no network user identity associated with a network locator address of the user. Thus, the Farris, et al. patent does not send a query according to the network locator address upon determining that there is no network user identity associated with the network locator address of the network user as required in the claimed invention. Moreover, the Griffiths patent does not disclose any additional material combinable with the Farris, et al. patent that is material to patentability of these claims. Support for the above recitation can be found at page 10, lines 15-22, of Applicant's application. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-31 are patentably distinct from the proposed Farris, et al. - Griffiths combination.

This Response to Examiner's Final Action is necessary to address the new grounds of rejection and characterization of the cited art in support thereof. This Response to examiner's

Final Action could not have been presented earlier as the Examiner has only now raised new grounds of rejection and only now provided the current characterization of the cited art in support of the claim rejections.

CONCLUSION

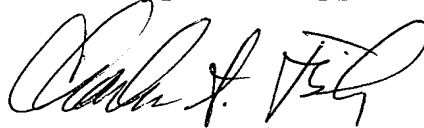
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments associated with this Application to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Charles S. Fish', is written over the printed name.

Charles S. Fish

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